

1998 LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

All Meat Animals:

Cash receipts for cattle, hogs, and sheep marketed in 1998 by Virginia livestock producers totaled \$350 million. Cattle and calf marketings accounted for 84 percent of total meat animal receipts. The value of all cattle, hogs, and sheep at the end of 1998 totaled \$837.5 million.

Cattle:

Virginia's cattle herd totaled 1.70 million head on January 1, 1999, unchanged from the previous year. Virginia remained ranked 18th in the nation. On January 1, 1999, there were 98.5 million head in the United States, down one percent from January 1998.

Beef cows in Virginia totaled 688,000 on January 1, 1999, down one percent from 1998. Heifers for beef cow replacement, weighing 500 pounds or more, totaled 115,000 head. This was an increase of two percent from the previous year. There were 122,000 milk cows including those dry and being milked and 63,000 heifers for milk cow replacement, down 2 and up 5 percent respectively from 1998. The 1998 calf crop totaled 740,000 head, down one percent from 1997. Cattle on feed for the slaughter market totaled 30,000 head on January 1, 1999, the same as 1998. A total of 29,000 farms in the Old Dominion had cattle, of which 23,000 had beef cows.

The value of all cattle and calves on Virginia farms on January 1, 1999, was \$816 million. The average value per head was \$480. Cash receipts from cattle and calf sales totaled \$294.2 million and marketings of all cattle and calves totaled 500,050 head in 1998. Cash receipts from the sale of cattle and calves ranked third in the state in 1998, behind broilers and milk.

Hogs:

There were 390,000 hogs and pigs on Virginia farms on December 1, 1998. This was down two percent from 1997. Breeding hog inventory totaled 35,000 head. Market hogs totaled 355,000, down one percent from the previous year. The 1998 pig crop totaled 641,000, up two percent from 1997. A total of 73,000 sows farrowed in 1998, unchanged from the previous year. The annual average pigs per litter for 1998 was 8.8. The number of farms with hogs totaled 1,500, down 100 from 1997. This compares to 2,200 hog farms in 1993. Virginia ranks 20th among all states for total number of hogs and pigs.

On December 1, 1998, the hogs and pigs on Virginia farms had a total value of \$16.0 million, down 47 percent from 1997. The average value per head was \$41, down \$34 from the previous year. Marketings for 1998 totaled 622,000 head. Cash receipts totaled \$51.9 million. The average price received by producers in 1998 was \$34.60 per hundredweight, down \$17 from 1997.

Sheep:

Sheep and lamb numbers in Virginia totaled 57,000 head on January 1, 1999, down twenty-three percent from 1998. Ewes one year old and older totaled 37,000 head, down twenty percent from 1998. Replacement lambs totaled 7,000 head, down 2,000 from the previous year. The 1998 lamb crop totaled 52,000, down thirteen percent from 1997. Sheep and lambs on feed totaled 11,000 head, down 5,000 from 1997. Virginia was tied for 23rd among all States for total number of sheep.

Virginia sheep and lamb values on January 1, 1999 was \$5.5 million, down twenty-five percent from 1998. The average value per head was \$97, down three dollars from the previous year. Cash receipts from marketings in 1998 totaled \$2.89 million, down ten percent from one year earlier. ♦

LIVESTOCK SELECTED RECORDS

1868 - 1998 1/

Item	RECORD HIGH		RECORD LOW		Date Series Began
	Head	Year	Head	Year	
	-Thousand-		-Thousand-		
CATTLE					
All Cattle & Calves, Jan. 1	1,860	1987	590	1868	
Beef Cows Jan. 1	740	1997	33	1927	
Milk Cows Jan. 1	479	1954	125	1998	
Calf Crop	835	1986	289	1927	
MILK					
Milk Production (Annual) 2/	2,151,000	1986	1,234,000	1930	
HOGS					
All Hogs & Pigs, Dec. 1	970	1943	360	1986	
Pig Crop	1,527	1943	640	1995	
SHEEP					
All Sheep & Lambs, Jan. 1	510	1868	57	1999	
Lamb Crop	500	1932	52	1999	
Wool Production (Annual) 2/	2,225	1931	288	1998	
POULTRY					
Broilers Produced	263,300	1998	2,000	1934	
Turkey Raised	26,000	1998	515	1931	
Hens & Pullets of Laying Age, Dec. 1	10,939	1944	3,206	1974	
Egg Production 3/	1,207,000	1963	755,000	1934	

1/ These are the latest years that records were achieved. In some cases, these records were equaled in earlier years.

2/ Production in pounds. 3/ Production in number of eggs.